

for the majority of those who suffer, that would have eliminated the death tax on small businesses and family farmers, that would have rewarded those who save for retirement, those who save for their children's and college education and also would have rewarded providing health care coverage for one's employees as well as their family, and unfortunately President Clinton vetoed that effort to help families by bringing fairness to the Tax Code, and he stated, and he was very blunt; he said he vetoed this tax cut because he wanted to spend that money instead.

That is really what this is all about over the next week or so as we wrap up this legislative session. President Clinton has made it very clear he wants to spend a lot more money than Republicans do, and he says that we can do it if we increase taxes, and the President says we could do it if we raid the Social Security Trust Fund.

Madam Speaker, I very proud last week when this House of Representatives cast a vote 419 to 0, which means that every member who cast a vote voted in opposition to the President's proposal for \$238 billion in tax increases. That is a very clear message to the President that we oppose his tax increases, and I also want to point out that this House also went on record in opposition to the President's plan to raid Social Security. We need to oppose his tax increases, we need to stop the raid on Social Security, but we can balance the budget without those.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MORELLA). Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 47 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. GOODLATTE) at 2 p.m.

#### PRAYER

The Reverend Dr. Robert Dvorak, The Evangelical Church, Middletown, Connecticut, offered the following prayer:

Let the House be in a spirit of prayer. Lord, our God, we enter into this week's schedule, mindful again of the duty to work hard and well for others. Many are waiting and hoping; even nations observe. You, the living God, see and hear us, too, taking note of all things.

We pray, then, for ourselves that You will sharpen the focus on responsibil-

ities rightly asked of us, keeping us true to our trust. Grant us firmness in thinking, tempered by allowances for honest, contrary thought. Send a few moments our way wherein we may seek true advantage for ones around us, thereby refreshing them and ourselves.

At day's end, encourage us with a sense that life in Washington and the world is better because of the part we have played in things. Now, for this day, keep in Your protecting hand all Members of this House, its leadership, officers, and staff. Make the spirit of each to prosper with new grace the call of this prayer to You, O God. Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Chair's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Chair's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KILDEE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. KILDEE led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, October 22, 1999.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,  
*The Speaker, House of Representatives,*  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted to Clause 2(h) of Rule II of

the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on October 22, 1999 at 9:52 a.m.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 2367.

Appointment: Board of Directors of the Mickey Leland National Urban Air Toxics Research Center

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAH, L,  
Clerk of the House.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, October 25, 1999.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,  
*The Speaker, House of Representatives,*  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted to Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on October 22, 1999 at 4:50 p.m.

That the Senate agreed to conference report H.R. 2466.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAH, L,  
Clerk of the House.

#### PAIN RELIEF PROMOTION ACT

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Pain Relief Promotion Act. There is a question currently pending in the country of Holland. It is this: Is the Netherlands ready for the killing of sick children?

There is a bill in their parliament that would allow the killing of seriously ill children, as young as between 12 years old, if they are considered terminal.

A spokeswoman for the Royal Dutch Medical Association said, "The doctor will do his utmost to try to reach an agreement between the patient and parents. But if the parents do not want to cooperate, it is the doctor's duty to respect the wishes of her patient." So much for the Hippocratic Oath for civilized medical institutions.

This situation in the Netherlands gives us all the more reason to pass the Pain Relief Promotion Act. This act will provide doctors with the ability to aggressively treat their patients' pain while prohibiting assisted suicides or euthanasia.

We never want to see the day when our young kids or our elderly parents legally and intentionally die at the hands of a so-called doctor.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill to promote pain management and